

## **FISH and WILDLIFE COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET**

**Meeting Date:** August 9, 2018

**Agenda Item:** East Rosebud Fishing Access Site (R5)

**Division:** Fisheries

**Action Needed:** Endorsement

**Time Needed on Agenda for this Presentation:** 5 minutes

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**Background:** This proposed 10-acre fishing access property in Region 5 is approximately 3.5 miles south of Absarokee on East Rosebud Creek. It would provide the first public access opportunity on East Rosebud downstream from the US Forest Service boundary. The landowner of this property also owns the land upstream, downstream and across the creek. Historically there has been no public access in this area. This section of the creek is not floatable, consequently access would be limited to wade fishing. No price has been negotiated for the property, however the landowner is aware of and has agreed to compensation at a fair market appraisal of the property.

**Public Involvement Process & Results:** There has been no formal public involvement to date on acquiring this parcel. Upon gaining the commission's endorsement to proceed with this acquisition, the department would conduct an environmental review and solicit public comments.

**Alternatives and Analysis:** The commission's endorsement would enable the department to pursue the acquisition of this parcel. Included in the review would be an evaluation of the alternatives.

**Agency Recommendation & Rationale:** FWP recommends the commission endorse the department's request to pursue acquiring this parcel of land that would provide public access to a fishery that has not historically had public access.

**Proposed Motion:** I move to endorse FWP's request to pursue acquisition of this 10-acre parcel on East Rosebud Creek for a new fishing access site.